

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~In a computer system including a display and at least two software applications, wherein the software applications are represented as graphical windows in a first portion of the display and as graphic controls on a second portion of the display when the software applications are instantiated on the computer system,~~ [[a]] A method for managing the at least two software applications on a display of a computer system comprising:

instantiating a first software application on the computer system;

instantiating an other than a first software application on the computer system;

rendering the first software application in a first graphical window on a first portion of the display and in a first graphic control on a second portion of the display as a result of the instantiation;

rendering the other than the first software application in an other than the first graphical window on the first portion of the display and in an other than the first graphic control on the second portion of the display as a result of the instantiation;

obtaining an indication to organize [[a]] the first graphic control corresponding to a first instantiated software application and [[a]] the other than the first second graphic control in a group, wherein obtaining the indication includes rendering a set of guides representing inclusion or exclusion from one or more possible groupings in the second portion of the display; corresponding to a second instantiated software application;

grouping the first and the other than the first second graphic controls on the second portion of the display according to the obtained indication; and

automatically, without user input, displaying rendering the grouping first and second graphic controls as in a bordered group control tile within in the second portion of the display, the bordered group including the first and the other than the first graphic controls and a graphic group control the group control tile configured for simultaneous action on both the first instantiated software application and the second instantiated software application.

2. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 1, wherein obtaining an indication to organize the first and second the other than the first graphic controls includes obtaining a user manipulation of a selection device to drag and drop the first graphic control on the second the other than the first graphic control.
3. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 2 further comprising rendering displaying a set of guides indicating one or more possible groupings of graphic controls corresponding to a drag and drop within on a selected guide.
4. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 3, wherein the set of guides include a curved carat indicating the inclusion of a selected graphic control to a group and a straight line to indicate the exclusion of a selected graphic control from a group.
5. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 1, wherein displaying the first and second graphic controls as a group within the second portion of the display includes displaying a the graphic group control instantiates a for instantiating [[an]] simultaneous action on the first and second the other than the first graphic controls[[.]] and the respective graphical windows corresponding to the graphic controls.
6. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 5, wherein instantiating an action on the first and second the other than the first graphic controls is selected from a group consisting of comprises minimizing the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second the other than the first graphic controls, restoring the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second the other than the first graphic controls, closing the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second the other than the first graphic controls, saving data within the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second the other than the first graphic controls, or and resizing the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second the other than the first graphic controls.
7. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 1, wherein the rendering of displaying the first and second the other than the first graphic controls as [[a]] bordered

group within the second portion of the display includes displaying at least a portion of the first and ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic controls, the method further comprising:

obtaining an indication to collapse the group; and
~~displaying rendering~~ the group solely as a group graphic control on the second portion of the display.

8. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~Claim~~ 7, wherein obtaining an indication to collapse the group includes:

monitoring the frequency of manipulation of the first and ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic controls; and

automatically collapsing the group if the frequency of manipulation is below a threshold level.

9. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~Claim~~ 7, wherein obtaining an indication to collapse the group includes obtaining a user indication to collapse the group.

10. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~Claim~~ 1, wherein ~~displaying rendering~~ the first and ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic controls as a group within the second portion of the display includes associating a name with the group and rendering ~~displaying~~ the name on a portion of a group indicator.

11. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~Claim~~ 1 further comprising: obtaining an indication to remove the ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic group control from the group; and ~~displaying rendering~~ the first and ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic controls as separate graphic controls.

12. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~Claim~~ 1, wherein rendering the bordered group ~~displaying the first and second graphic controls as a group within the second portion of the display~~ includes rendering ~~displaying~~ a continuous border around the first and ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic controls indicating the association of the first and ~~second~~ the other than the first graphic controls to the group.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 1, wherein the bordered group corresponds to a project and wherein rendering displaying the first and second the other than the first graphic controls as a group within the second portion of the display includes rendering displaying a project control for toggling the software applications corresponding to the first and second the other than the first graphic controls between a minimized state and a restored state.

16. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 15, wherein rendering displaying a project control includes rendering displaying a project name and a number of software applications included with the project.

17. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 15, wherein obtaining an indication to organize the first and second the other than the first graphic controls includes obtaining a user manipulation of a selection device to drag and drop the first graphic control on the second the other than the first graphic control to organize the first and second the other than the first graphic controls as a project.

18. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim Claim 15, wherein the computer system includes a base project group separate from the project including the first and second the other than the first graphic controls and wherein the first and second the other than the first software applications belong to the base project.

19. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 18 further comprising:

toggling the project corresponding to the first and second software applications in a minimized state;

obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows corresponding to the minimized project; and

displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display.

20. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 19, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes displaying a reduced size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the first portion of the display.

21. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 19, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes displaying a full size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the first portion of the display.

22. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 19, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes displaying at least semi-transparent representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the first portion of the display.

23. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 19, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows corresponding to the minimized project includes obtaining a manipulation of a user selection device to hover over a minimized project control.

24. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 19, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows corresponding to the minimized project includes obtaining a selection of a preview control corresponding to a minimized project control.

25. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 15 further comprising:
generating a time-line associated with the project corresponding to the first and second software application;

generating at least one snapshot of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software application, wherein the at least one snapshot is dependent on a time value; and

displaying the snapshot on the time-line as a time-based icon.

26. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 25, wherein the time-line is associated only with the project corresponding to the first and second software application.

27. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 25, wherein storing at least one snapshot includes generating a snapshot according to pre-determined time criteria.

28. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 25, wherein storing at least one snapshot includes:

obtaining an indication to generate a snapshot of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software application; and

generating a snapshot of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software application in accordance with the indication.

29. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 25 further comprising:

obtaining a selection of the time-based icon; and

generating a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display.

30. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 29 further comprising:

obtaining a subsequent selection of the time-based icon;

recalling the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display stored according to the time-based icon; and

restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display stored according to the time-based icon.

31. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 30, wherein generating at least one snapshot of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software application according to a time as a time-based icon includes storing state information corresponding to the first and second software application and wherein restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display stored according to the time-based icon includes restoring state information stored for the first and second software application.

32. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising:

generating a record of the layout of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software applications;

storing the record of the layout of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software applications; and

generating a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display.

33. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes displaying a reduced size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the first portion of the display.

34. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes displaying a full size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the first portion of the display.

35. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes displaying at least semi-transparent representation of

the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the first portion of the display.

36. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows includes obtaining a manipulation of a user selection device to hover over the group corresponding to the first and second software applications.

37. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows includes obtaining a selection of a preview control associated with the group corresponding to the first and second software applications.

38. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 32 further comprising:
obtaining an indication to restore the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software applications; and
restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display stored according to the record of the layout.

39. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 38, wherein generating a record of the layout of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software applications includes storing state information corresponding to the first and second software application and wherein restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the first portion of the display includes restoring state information stored for the first and second software application.

40. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the second portion of the display corresponds to a taskbar.

41. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 40, wherein the second portion corresponds to multiple toolbars.

42. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in Claim 1.

43. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in Claim 15.

44. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in Claim 32.

45. (Withdrawn) A computer system having a processor, a memory and an operating environment, the computer system for performing the method recited in Claim 1.

46. (Withdrawn) A computer system having a processor, a memory and an operating environment, the computer system for performing the method recited in Claim 15.

47. (Withdrawn) A computer system having a processor, a memory and an operating environment, the computer system for performing the method recited in Claim 32.

48. (Currently amended) ~~In a~~ A computer system including a display and a plurality of software applications, wherein the display includes a desktop for displaying graphical windows and taskbar for controlling the software applications and wherein the plurality of software applications are represented as graphical windows on a desktop portion of the display and as control tiles on a taskbar portion of the display when instantiated on the computer system, a method for managing the plurality of software applications comprising:

one or more of software applications, each software application displaying one or more corresponding graphical windows and displaying one or more corresponding control tiles;

a desktop for displaying the one or more graphical windows corresponding to each software application on the display;

a taskbar for displaying the one or more control tiles corresponding to each software application on the display;

a organization component for organizing the one or more control tiles in the taskbar, the organizing includes obtaining an indication to organize, selecting the one or more control tiles, displaying a set of guides for inclusion or exclusion into one or more group, releasing the one or more control tiles according to the indication to organize;

a rendering component for displaying the one or more control tiles according to the indication to organize, if the indication to organize was for inclusion in a group, the rendering component displays the one or more control tiles within a group, the group including the one or more control tiles and a group control tile visually separated from other items in the taskbar.

obtaining an indication to group a first control tile corresponding to a first instantiated software application and a second control tile corresponding to a second instantiated software application;

grouping the first and second control tiles on the taskbar portion of the display; and automatically, without user input, displaying the first and second controls as a group control tile within the second portion of the display, the group control tile configured for simultaneous action on both the first instantiated software application and the second instantiated software application.

49. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48, wherein obtaining an indication to organize the first and second one or more control tiles includes obtaining a user manipulation of a selection device to drag and drop the first control tile adjacent to the second control tile.

50. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48 further comprising displaying a set of guides indicating one or more possible groupings of control tiles corresponding to a drag and drop on a selected guide.

51. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 50, wherein the set of guides include a curved carat indicating the inclusion of a selected control tile to a group and a straight line to indicate the exclusion of a selected control tile from a group.

52. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the group control tile includes one or more group controls displaying the first and second control tiles as a group within the taskbar portion of the display includes displaying a graphic group control for instantiating an action on the first and second control tiles.

53. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 52 wherein instantiating an action on the first and second control tiles is selected from a group consisting of a group control is minimizing the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second one or more control tiles, restoring the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second one or more control tiles, closing the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second one or more control tiles, saving data within the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second one or more control tiles, and or resizing the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second one or more control tiles.

54. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the displaying the first and second one or more control tiles as [[a]]the group within the taskbar portion of the display includes displaying at least a portion of the first and second one or more control tiles, the system method further comprising:

the organization component obtaining an indication to collapse the group; and
the rendering component displaying the group solely as a group control tile.

55. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48, wherein displaying the first and second one or more control tiles as [[a]]the group within the taskbar portion of the display includes associating a name with the group and displaying the name on a portion of a group indicator.

56. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48 further comprising:

the organization component obtaining an indication to remove one or more the second control tile from the group; and
the rendering component displaying the first and second one or more control

tiles removed from the group as separate control tiles.

57. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48, wherein displaying the first and second one or more control tiles as [[a]]the group within the taskbar portion of the display includes displaying a continuous border around the first and second control tiles indicating the association of the first and second one or more control tiles to the group.

58. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 57, wherein displaying a continuous border around the first and second one or more control tiles indicating the association of the first and second one or more control tiles to the group includes displaying the continuous border in a color separate from a color corresponding to the taskbar.

59. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 58 wherein displaying a continuous border around the first and second one or more control tiles indicating the association of the first and second one or more control tiles to the group includes displaying the continuous border in a color separate from any other color of a group on the taskbar.

60. (Canceled).

61. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the group corresponds to a project and wherein displaying the first and second one or more control tiles as a group within the taskbar portion of the display includes displaying a project control for toggling the software applications corresponding to the first and second one or more control tiles between a minimized state and a restored state.

62. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim method as recited in Claim 61, wherein displaying a project control includes displaying a project name and a number of software applications included with the project.

63. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim ~~method as recited in Claim~~ 61, wherein the computer system includes a base project separate from the project including the ~~first and second~~ one or more control tiles and wherein the ~~first and second~~ one or more software applications belong to the base project.

64. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 63 further comprising:
 toggling the project corresponding to the first and second software applications in a minimized state;
 obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows corresponding to the minimized project; and
 displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display.

65. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 63, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes displaying a reduced size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the desktop portion of the display.

66. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 63, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes displaying a full size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the desktop portion of the display.

67. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 63, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes displaying at least semi-transparent representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the desktop portion of the display.

68. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 64, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows corresponding to the minimized project includes obtaining a manipulation of a user selection device to hover over a minimized project control.

69. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 64, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows corresponding to the minimized project includes obtaining a selection of a preview control corresponding to a minimized project control.

70. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 61 further comprising:
generating a time-line associated with the project corresponding to the first and second software application;
generating at least one snapshot of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software application, wherein the at least one snapshot is dependent on a time value; and
displaying the snapshot on the time-line as a time-based icon.

71. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 70 further comprising:
obtaining a selection of the time-based icon; and
generating a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display.

72. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 71 further comprising:
obtaining a subsequent selection of the time-based icon;
recalling the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display stored according to the time-based icon; and
restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display stored according to the time-based icon.

73. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 72, wherein generating at least one snapshot of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software application according to a time as a time-based icon includes storing state information corresponding to the first and second software application and wherein restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display stored according to the time-based icon includes restoring state information stored for the first and second software application.

74. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 48 further comprising:

generating a record of the layout of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software applications;

storing the record of the layout of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software applications; and

generating a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display.

75. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 74, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes displaying a reduced size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the desktop portion of the display.

76. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 74, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes displaying a full size representation of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the desktop portion of the display.

77. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 74, wherein displaying a preview of the display graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes displaying at least semi-transparent representation of the

graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application on the desktop portion of the display.

78. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 74, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows includes obtaining a manipulation of a user selection device to hover over the group corresponding to the first and second software applications.

79. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 74, wherein obtaining an indication to preview the graphical windows includes obtaining a selection of a preview control associated with the group corresponding to the first and second software applications.

80. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 74 further comprising:
obtaining an indication to restore the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software applications; and
restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display stored according to the record of the layout.

81. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 80, wherein generating a record of the layout of the first and second graphical window corresponding to the first and second software applications includes storing state information corresponding to the first and second software application and wherein restoring the display of the graphical windows corresponding to the first and second software application in the desktop portion of the display includes restoring state information stored for the first and second software application.

82. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in Claim 48.

83. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the toolbar portion is represented as two or more distinct areas on the display.

84. (Currently amended) A computer system for managing a plurality of software applications, the system comprising:

means for displaying two or more software applications as corresponding graphical windows when the two or more software applications are instantiated on the computer system;

means for displaying two or more control tiles corresponding to two or more software applications when the two or more software applications are instantiated on the computer system; and

means for automatically, without user input, displaying the first and second graphic two or more control tiles in a group based on an action to organize control tiles, the action to organize triggers a set of guides indicating inclusion or exclusion of a group and places the tiles within or without the group relative to the set of guides, the group includes the two or more control tiles and controls as a group control tile within the second portion of the display, the group control tile configured for simultaneous action on both the first instantiated software application and the second instantiated software application.

85. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim 84, wherein the means for displaying the two or more control tiles includes means for generating a set of guides indicating one or more possible organizations of control tiles, include a curved carat indicating the inclusion of a selected control tile to a group and a straight line to indicate the exclusion of a selected control tile from a group.

86. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim 84, the simultaneous action on both the first instantiated software application and the second instantiated software application includes: minimizing the graphical window corresponding to each software application, restoring the graphical window corresponding to each software application, closing the graphical window corresponding to each software application, saving data within the graphical window corresponding to each software application, or resizing the graphical windows corresponding to each software application.

87. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim Claim 84, wherein the means for displaying the two or more control tiles as a group includes means for displaying a group control without displaying any portion of the two or more control tiles.

88. (Withdrawn) The system as recited in Claim 84, wherein the means for displaying the two or more control tiles as a group includes means for displaying the two or more control tiles as a project for toggling the software applications corresponding to the two or more control tiles between a minimized and a restored state.

89. (Withdrawn) The system as recited in Claim 88 further comprising means for displaying a time-dependent representation of the project.

90. (Withdrawn) The system as recited in Claim 89 further comprising means for restoring a time-dependent representation of the project.

91. (Withdrawn) The system as recited in Claim 84 further comprising means for previewing the layout of the graphical windows corresponding to the two or more software applications on the means for displaying two or more software applications as graphical windows.

92. (Withdrawn) The system as recited in Claim 91 further comprising means for storing state corresponding to the two or more software applications.

93. (New) The system as recited in claim 84 further comprising:
means for obtaining an indication to collapse the two or more control tiles into the group control tile; and
means for displaying the group solely as a group control tile.

94. (New) The system as recited in claim 84 further comprising:
means for obtaining an indication to remove two or more control tiles from the group; and

means for displaying the two or more control tiles removed from the group as separate control tiles.